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For the past year or so there have been a number of newspaper articles about my countering the President's policies regarding support to Freedom Fighters. These articles normally focused on Afghanistan and, occasionally, on Nicaragua. When I decided to retire, articles replayed the theme suggesting that I was resigning because of a dispute over the President's policies not only in Afghanistan and Nicaragua, but the Third World at large.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

I chose previously to remain silent and not counter the articles because I was confident that key officials in the Administration knew the truth from my actions and would not give any credence to the articles. Unfortunately, the uninformed who continue to play these falsehoods are now aiding and abetting the Sandinistas.

The Sandinistas have picked up these erroneous press reports about me and through the Sandinista media in Nicaragua are pushing the theme that I resigned because of the "growing meddling of the Pentagon in covert wars -- such is the case in Nicaragua" or that I have been dismissed because I opposed the "exportation and funding of mercenaries against Nicaragua" and because of (my) general opposition to "the aggressive policy of covert military operations of the Reagan Administration." Other foreign press is also replaying this nonsense, and it is causing foreign officials to wonder.

To set the record straight, I have and do support the President's policies and execute his Directives to the fullest. It is indeed ironic that at the very moment the recent spate of false articles were published surrounding my retirement, I was testifying before the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and later to the House Armed Services Committee on behalf of the President's Nicaraguan proposal. I not only subscribe to the President's policies as set forth by Secretary Shultz in his statement before the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations dated February 27, 1986, but during my testimony I called both Committees' attention to the Secretary's statement and requested that it be made part of the Congressional Record of my testimony.

Enough said.